

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

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Update on the Committee on Transfer and Articulation
Coordinating Board for Higher Education
October 14, 2004

DESCRIPTION

The CBHE Committee on Transfer and Articulation (COTA) has responsibility to promote and monitor the board's Credit Transfer policies and to work with institutional representatives to ensure successful student transfer and effective articulation agreements. The intent of this board item is to provide an update on COTA.

Background

The CBHE has statutory responsibility to promote and facilitate the transfer of students between institutions of higher education within the state. COTA serves as a standing CBHE advisory committee to ensure that effective transfer and articulation policies are developed, implemented, evaluated, and monitored. Within this context, COTA also has the challenge of identifying measures of success that will help inform discussions about the effectiveness of Missouri's transfer and articulation system. COTA also serves as the appeals board for formal complaints about transfer/articulation practices. COTA is composed of eight presidents/chancellors (or their designees) with representation from each sector. COTA membership is included in the attachment.

Several COTA members are new, and other vacancies are anticipated in the near future. During this period of transition for higher education, questions have been raised about the effectiveness of COTA as a CBHE Standing Committee. There has also been extensive dialogue among COPHE and MCCA members (including some COTA members) about forging a joint statement on transfer and identifying transfer challenges that require attention.

COTA is scheduled to hold both a business meeting and a work session on October 18, 2004, in Jefferson City. Tentative agenda items for the business meeting include an update on the COPHE/MCCA transfer discussion, an update from the September 21, 2004, chief academic officer discussion on transfer/articulation challenges, an update on dual credit issues, a review of early childhood articulation guidelines, and presentation by DESE on model tech/prep articulations. Following its business meeting, COTA will hold a work session focused on a review and self-assessment of its effectiveness. COTA members will develop a tentative list of priorities for the year and identify draft recommendations for any changes to the committee's structure and responsibilities.

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Conclusions

CBHE policies on transfer and articulation are intended to ensure an efficient, fair, and predictable transfer and articulation system that is sensitive to student needs and supports state goals for enhanced preparation of K-12 students, successful participation of college students and performance excellence of institutions. A joint COPHE/MCCA statement on transfer will demonstrate to both internal and external constituencies the commitment of educational leaders from public institutions to ensure that transfer and articulation challenges are addressed and opportunities are pursued. Since students readily transfer across sector boundaries, a joint statement that covers public, independent, and proprietary institutions should also be pursued.

STATUTORY REFERENCE

Section 173.020(3) and 173.005.2(6), RSMo, Responsibilities of the Coordinating Board
Section 167.223, RSMo, High schools may offer postsecondary course options—fees

RECOMMENDED ACTION

This is an information item only.

ATTACHMENT

Committee on Transfer and Articulation Membership

CBHE Committee on Transfer and Articulation

July 1, 2004

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